

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-10 ISO-00 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SAJ-01

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LOURENCO MARQUES IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

USLO PEKING IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 269912

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PORG, CG, US

SUBJECT: GOZ ASKS THAT SECURITY COUNCIL BE INFORMED OF
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SOVIET THREAT

REF: KINSHASA 9827

1. ZAIRIAN REQUEST THAT US, ALONG WITH UK, FRANCE AND CHINA, INFORM SECURITY COUNCIL OF "GRAVE SOVIET MENACE TO ZAIRE," PRESENTS US WITH CERTAIN PROBLEMS BUT ALSO WITH OPPORTUNITY TO KEEP FOCUS OF INTERNATIONAL ATTENTION ON SOVIET ARMS SHIPMENTS TO CONGO BRAZZAVILLE AND ANGOLA. WE BELIEVE IT SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL. HOWEVER, IT WOULD SEEM UNUSUAL FOR ONE MEMBER OF UN TO MAKE SUCH A REPRESENTATION ON BEHALF OF ANOTHER MEMBER GOVERNMENT WHICH IS NOT ITSELF COMMUNICATING CONCERN TO UN DIRECTLY. EVEN IF THIS WERE NOT THE CASE, WE WOULD NOT WISH TO CAST OUR OWN STATEMENT OF PROBLEM OF SOVIET ARMS SHIPMENTS NARROWLY IN TERMS OF THREAT TO ZAIRE. AT THE SAME TIME, ZAIRIAN NOTIFICATION OF CONCERN TO SECURITY COUNCIL WOULD ADD TO THE HEAT THE SOVIETS ARE ALREADY TAKING FROM GETTING OUT IN FRONT OF OAU ON ANGOLAN RECOGNITION ISSUE AND MIGHT BEGIN TO SOFTEN THEM UP FOR THE POLITICAL COMPROMISE IN ANGOLA TOWWRD WHICH WE WOULD LIKE TO ENCOURAGE MOVEMENT.

WE RECOGNIZE, OF COURSE, THAT IT COULD ALSO PROMPT SOVIETS TO REPEAT ALLEGATIONS THEY HAVE MADE RE U.S. ASSISTANCE TO ANTI-MPLA FORCES.

2. YOU ARE THEREFORE INSTRUCTED TO RESPOND TO BULA ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:

A. AS PRESIDENT MOBUTU AND FOREIGN MINISTER BULA ARE AWARE, THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT FULLY SHARES ZAIRE'S CONCERN OVER THE LARGE SCALE OF INTRODUCTION OF SOVIET ARMS INTO THE CENTRAL AFRICAN AREA. WE APPRECIATE AND SHARE ZAIRE'S APPREHENSION OVER THIS DEVELOPMENT AND FULLY SUPPORT ZAIRE'S POSITION. SECRETARY KISSINGER HAS ON SEVERAL RECENT OCCASIONS MADE PUBLIC OUR CONCERN, MOST RECENTLY AT A PRESS CONFERENCE ON NOVEMBER 10 (TEXT SENT KINSHASA IN NOVEMBER 10 WIRELESS FILE).

B. THE USG BELIEVES THE ZAIRIAN PROPOSAL TO NOTIFY
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THE SECURITY COUNCIL OF ZAIRE'S CONCERN WITH THE INTRODUC-
TION OF SOVIET ARMS IS A USEFUL PROPOSAL WHICH WE FAVOR.
HOWEVER, THE NORMAL PROCEDURE FOR SUCH A NOTIFICATION TO
THE SECURITY COUNCIL WOULD BE FOR ZAIRE TO ADDRESS A
LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL STATING
THE PROBLEM AND ZAIRE'S CONCERNS AND ASKING THAT THE
LETTER BE CIRCULATED AS AN OFFICIAL DOCUMENT OF THE
COUNCIL. WE BELIEVE THIS WOULD BE THE APPROPRIATE MANNER

FOR ZAIRE TO MAKE KNOWN ITS CONCERNS SINCE IT IS THE THREATENED PARTY AND IS ITSELF A MEMBER OF THE UN AND LTHAT IT WOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATE FOR THE USG TO MAKE THE REPRESENTATION ON BEHALF OF ZAIRE. HOWEVER, SINCE WE AGREE THAT BULA'S PROPOSAL HAS MERIT, THE USG WOULD LEND VIGOROUS DIPLOMATIC SUPPORT TO ZAIRE'S CONCERNS.

C. IN ADDITION, SINCE THE SOVIET REPRESENTATIVE MALIK IS THE SECURITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT THIS MONTH, WE WOULD RECOMMEND THAT ZAIRE SEND A SEPARATE LETTER TO THE UN SECRETARY GENERAL APPRISING HIM OF THE LETTER TO MALIK AND ENCLOSING A COPY OF THE LETTER. WE BELIEVE THIS WOULD HELP ENSURE TIMELY CIRCULATION OF THE LETTER.

D. IF, IN ADDITION TO BRINGING SOVIET THREAT TO ATTENTION OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL, ZAIRE IS CONTEMPLATING ASKING FOR COUNCIL MEETING TO DISCUSS THE THREAT, WE WOULD LIKE FIRST TO EXAMINE FURTHER WITH GOZ WHETHER FULL-FLEDGED SECURITY COUNCIL AIRING AT THIS TIME WOULD BE IN OUR MUTUAL INTEREST.

3. BEFORE DELIVERING ABOVE RESPONSE, YOU SHOULD INFORM

BRITISH AND FRENCH AMBASSADORS OF POSITION WE PROPOSE TO TAKE AND EXPRESS HOPE THAT THEIR REPLIES TO GOZ WILL BE ALONG SIMILAR LINES. PLEASE ADVISE IF THEY, OR YOU, SEE SERIOUS PROBLEMS WITH OUR PROPOSAL. WE WOULD HOPE, HOWEVER, TO GIVE GOZ A PROMPT, SYMPATHETIC AND ESSENTIALLY SUPPORTIVE REPLY. AFTER INFORMING THE BRITISH AND FRENCH, AND ASSUMING YOU ARE THEN GOING AHEAD WITH OUR REPLY ABOVE, YOU SHOULD ALSO INFORM THE CHINESE AMBASSADOR OF THE REPLY WE INTEND TO GIVE TO BQLA'S DEMARCHE. KISSINGER
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